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Finance Committee Minutes 04-12-04

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
 MINUTES OF MEETING
 7:30 PM O'NEILL ROOM, COMMUNITY SAFETY BUILDING
 4/12/04

ATTENDEES:

McGaffigan*	Feinleib*	O'Riordan*	O'Neill	Mahoney*
DeCoursey*	Connors	Simmons	Morrisette*	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst*	Ronan*	
Piandes	Franclemont	Jones*	Olsen*	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning*		Kneeland*

* Indicates present

VISITORS: Town Manager Brian Sullivan, Deputy Town Manager Nancy Galkowski, Gordon Jamieson, Paul Bayer

MINUTES of 3/31 approved. Unanimous

RECREATION EF: Library/Human Services SubCom (Franclemont) recommended (by email) support of the budget as printed in the Budget Book. She stated that the BOS & the Parks Commission recommend fees to cover program (not field maintenance) costs and such fees will be assessed starting this Summer. VOTED Expenses \$428,625; Revenues \$424,688; Balance \$3,937. Unanimous

COA EF: Library/Human Services SubCom (Franclemont) provided (by email) a spread sheet that revises the Budget Book figures. She recommends a \$10k increase in the fund balance to be paid from the General Fund. Apparently this is to make up for loss of a State grant. Deyst to get details.

ART 80,81,82 TRASH COLLECTION: Jamieson reviewed the 3 articles and described various approaches that would encourage recycling by transferring part of the cost of trash collection and disposal to households in the form of fees proportional to the amount of trash put out for collection. A trash reduction of 20% is considered conservative. This would reduce the tipping fee about \$200k. The present total program cost is \$3.2m. Depending on the plan adopted, the revenue might range from \$1m to \$2.4m. A spirited discussion followed.

BALANCING THE BUDGET: Sullivan & Galkowski reviewed a plan (copies provided to FinCom) approved by the BOS earlier in the day. This plan would reduce the funds set aside for collective bargaining by \$1.2m which would reduce the deficit to \$1.1m. This collective bargaining set aside is considered more realistic since it does not assume both a 3% pay increase and a 10% increase in the total cost of health insurance. This reduces the reductions to \$436k for the Manager & \$615k for the schools according to the O'Neill formula. Sullivan considers these reductions manageable. He will have a more specific proposal by Wednesday.

ART 78 FIELD USER FEES: The Field Fee SubCom (Olsen) reported on a meeting held w/ representatives of the youth sports clubs and the Recreation Dept. No consensus has been reached. Olsen provided a spread sheet showing that the cost of field maintenance that could fairly be charged to non-school users is now estimated to be about \$270k. He also provided a list of suggestions from the users of how field maintenance could be better-handled. A lengthy discussion followed. Members thought that the process should be continued and that no action need be taken on the article at this time.

COMMITTEE: Mta scheduled for Saturday 4/17 from 9:00 to 3:00 at the Jefferson Cutter House.

Peter B Howard, Secretary, 4/13/04 Revised 4/14/04

cc Selectmen, FinCom Members, Library file, Town Manager, Town Web Site

Budget & Article Action Summary

Bud #	Date presented	Date of vote	\$	Vote	Art#	Date presented	Date of vote	\$	Vote/ assigned to
1	2/18	2/18	9995	Unanimous	15	2/9			BOS
2	3/29,3/22	3/29	346565	Unanimous	28				BOS
3	3/1	3/1	330845	Unanimous	30	2/18	2/18		support BOS Unanimous
4	3/10	3/10	142185	Unanimous	44	3/10,31	3/31	1500000	13-1
5	2/23	2/23	785101	Unanimous	45	2/23,3/1	3/31		no action Unanimous
6	2/23	2/23	549140	Unanimous	47				
7	2/23	2/23	124512	Unanimous	48	3/17	3/17		BOS to report Kneeland
8	3/22	3/22	265396	Unanimous	49	2/2	2/4		favorable action Unanimous
9	2/18	2/18	705026	Unanimous	50	2/2	2/4		no action 13-1
10	3/1	3/1	197481	Unanimous	51	2/2			Kneeland
11	3/13,17	3/17	53987	Unanimous	52				Budgets
12	2/23	2/23	73871	Unanimous	53	3/22	3/22	2140851	Unanimous
13	2/18	2/18	166919	Unanimous	54	3/10	3/10	12067	Unanimous
14	2/18	2/18	391895	Unanimous	55	3/10	3/10		Same as FY04 Unanimous
15	2/18,23	2/23	20887	Unanimous	56	3/10	3/10	48848	Unanimous
16	3/1	3/1	6929445	Unanimous	57	3/15,3/29	3/29	7007130	Unanimous
17a	2/23	2/23	302851	Unanimous	58	2/8	3/31		no action Unanimous
17b	2/23	2/23	4330026	12-2	59	3/13,1			Kneeland
17c	3/15	3/15	4533811	Unanimous	60	3/1	3/31		up to \$12m. Unanimous
17d	3/15	3/15,3/29	628358	9-4	61	2/4	3/31		no action Unanimous
18a	2/23	2/23	301606	Unanimous	62	3/10			tabled
18b	2/23,3/1	3/17	300000	Unanimous	63	3/10			tabled
19	3/8	3/29	31141387	11-2	64	2/4	2/4		favorable action Unanimous
20	3/17	3/17	1510638	Unanimous	65	3/10			Report at TM Raises
21a	3/1	3/1	114115	Unanimous	66	3/10			Report at TM Raises
21b	3/1	3/1	139007	Unanimous	67	3/10			Report at TM Raises
21c	3/1	3/1	171938	Unanimous	68	3/10			Report at TM Raises
21d					69	3/10			Report at TM Raises
22/23	2/23	2/23	6107184	Unanimous	70	3/10			Report at TM Raises
24					71	3/10			Report at TM Raises
25	3/10,3/17	3/10,3/17	10805631	Unanimous	72	3/10	3/29	1291025	11-2
26	3/29	3/29	300000	Unanimous	73	3/10			Report at TM Raises
WS	3/31				74	3/10,31	3/31	5540	Unanimous
Rec	3/13,1	4/12	3937	Unanimous	75	2/4	3/31		no action Unanimous
Rnk	3/31	3/31	13421	Unanimous	76	2/18	3/10,3/15		No action Unanimous
COA	3/1	3/1	2649	Unanimous	77	3/17	3/17		No action Unanimous
YS	3/1	3/1	169080	Unanimous	78	3/15			subcom. appointed
					79	3/17	3/17		No action Unanimous
ART					80	2/9			
86	3/10	3/10	211572	Unanimous	81	2/9			
87				Olsen	82	2/9			
88				Olsen	83	3/10	3/10		No report Unanimous
89	3/31	3/31	500000	Unanimous	84	3/10	3/10		No report Unanimous
90	3/31	3/31	no action	Unanimous	85	3/10	3/10		No action Unanimous
91	3/31	3/31	1414803	Unanimous					